



OFFICE OF THE STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER STATE OF MONTANA

MONTANA PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION BRIEFING

August 1, 2014 meeting

LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET UPDATE INTERIM ACTIVITY

Law and Justice Interim Committee

- The agency provided part of its draft legislation to this committee on June 27. The Committee approved all of it for drafting.
- The next meeting, which has been identified as their last meeting this interim, is tentatively scheduled for September 3. The agency can submit additional legislation to the committee for approval at this time.
- Work plan for OPD: Agency legislation, monitor operations, and review required reports.
- Reports: The Commission submits its annual report to the Governor, Supreme Court and Legislature to this committee during the interim. Fiscal 2013 has been submitted and fiscal 2014 will be submitted before the end of calendar 2014.

Legislative Finance Committee

- The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 25 and the final meeting for this interim on November 12.
- Work plan for OPD: Monitor agency expenditures against appropriations, review employee turnover, and hear updates on capital case expenditures.
- Reports: On September 30, 2013 the agency submitted the net case, case duration, and collection/assessment reports. The next report is due on September 30, 2014.

64th Legislative Session and Budget Process (working backwards in time)

- Session begins: January 2015 and usually progresses through April
- Governor's budget due to legislature: Usually in the November-December 2014 timeframe
- Commission/Agency personnel meet with the Budget Office in late summer and during the fall of 2014
- Final Commission-approved budget was submitted to the Budget Office on May 12, 2014.